

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated October 15, 2009, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration. The application as presented is believed to be in allowable condition.

Applicants note with appreciation that claims 2-7, 9-14, and 16-22 are objected to as depending from rejected base claims, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of their respective base claims and any intervening claims.

Accordingly, to accept subject matter deemed allowable by the Examiner and thereby place the application in condition for allowance, Applicants have amended the claims as follows:

- **Dependent claims 2-4 have been rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of their base claim 1;**
- **Dependent claim 10 have been rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of its base claim 8, as well as claim 9;**
- **Dependent claim 11 have been rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of its base claim 8;**
- **Dependent claims 16, 18, and 22 have been rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of their base claim 15;**
- **Rejected independent claims 1, 8, and 15, as well as dependent claim 9 have been canceled without prejudice;**
- **Dependent claim 17 has been amended to update its dependency; and**
- **Claims 4 and 16-22 have been amended to remove non-limiting reference numerals.**

In view of the foregoing amendments, this application should now be in condition for allowance, and entry of the amendments is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the Applicants' representative at the telephone number below to discuss any outstanding issues relating to the allowability of the application. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 141270.

Dated:

04-JAN-2010

Respectfully submitted,

By /Mark L. Beloborodov /
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